



OTVARC Oscillator

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

March. 1994

From the President's Desk

By Bill Merwin, N7VZF

Is it just me or do some of you notice that even though February is only 2-3 days shorter than the rest of the months, it seems to go by about a week faster? It only seems like it was 2 weeks ago that I had the board meeting which would mean that I would have another week to write this thing. My wife just reminded me that tomorrow is the First of March already. It seems like this whole month, I have been in a hurry. And as we all know, haste makes waste. Which brings me to my topic this month. Haste.

When was the last time you ran out the door and forgot the pile of papers you were suppose to deliver at the meeting that started 10 minutes before? How many of us with kids have never rushed to make it out the door on a trip only to find you have left something of importance sitting in the house... Like your wallet; Your passport; Your glasses? Now, imagine what kind of pressure you would be under if we had a 6.0+ earthquake hit the area. I would imagine that the increased flow of adrenaline, mixed with a small amount of panic would generate a fair amount of fogged thinking.

Here is an example of haste making waste in a large way. Saturday, February 26th, there was a simulated emergency test (SET) that utilized the District 1 ARES net. I am one of the primary net control operators. I checked in at about 11:00 and was asked by Paul, WB7BBG (Net Control) if I would take over operations of the net at noon. Not a problem. I was working with the Miss Washington County Scholarship group that morning but I could take my hand-held cross-banded into the workshop. I had several stops to make before I got to the meeting but had plenty of time (I thought) to finish them and get lined up for the net. First stop went well but took a little longer than I had planned. That started putting me a bit behind. I usually plug in enough "Fudge Factor" to account for that. I whipped into the second stop, just about on time. I finished and headed for the last stop and my post for the net. I parked, turned off the engine, set up my mobile to

cross-band from 440 to 2m so I could use my HT, grabbed radio and started to close the door. I looked at my watch and saw that it was 11:59 and I still had to get inside. Just about then, I realized that I needed to take my extra battery pack, just in case (always planning). I set the radio and my keys down on the seat, reached between the seat where I keep the backup on the charger, grabbed the battery and shut the door. Guess where the radio, my books and my keys lay? Yep, front seat. About then, I hear Paul call and ask that I come up on frequency. I yelled, "I would love to Paul, but I am just a little out of range....!"

Not to worry, I always carry an extra set in ---- My backpack which was sitting on the back seat. I went inside and called my wife (KB7WJN). Nobody answered. I remembered that they had gone shopping that morning. Again, no problem, I will just call her on the 440.350 repeater and have her bring the keys so I can get myradio and keys..... I sat and listened to Paul grow hoarser by the moment, probably thinking all kinds of bad things about me. Finally, I got a ride, after the meeting to a friend's house who in turn took me to my house so I could get my keys (and almost had to crawl through the dog door). Then I caught another ride back out to Hillsboro to get my car. By now it was after 15:30, the net was over, I had missed most of the meeting and not very popular with anyone. All because I was in such a hurry, that I failed to go through my regular procedure. Keys in pocket before door is shut. Haste Makes Waste.

How does this apply to you? When was the last time that you checked your "Emergency Box"? When did you check your batteries in the flashlights, the AM/FM radio, your hand-held etc. When the shaker hits, and the experts say it is only a matter of time, how prepared are you going to be? Don't let Haste Make Waste when it comes to safety and preparedness.

Till next time, Same HAM Time, Same HAM Station, this is Bill, the Bearded Phreeque saying 73 <SK>

OTVARK TRAVELERS

March Outing

March 18, 19, & 20

The March Rally will be at the Cape Kawanda RV Park at Pacific City. This is a great place for all kinds of activities. It is right across the highway from the Ocean. This is the beach where they launch the famous dories. If you like to walk on the beach there are tide pools, and if you keep your eyes open you can find an agate.

We will have our usual Saturday night potluck at the park recreation room.

Please reserve your spot by calling:

Bob WF7Q or Jo KA7MIE 472-2716
Al WB7SIC 640-5456

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965-6230

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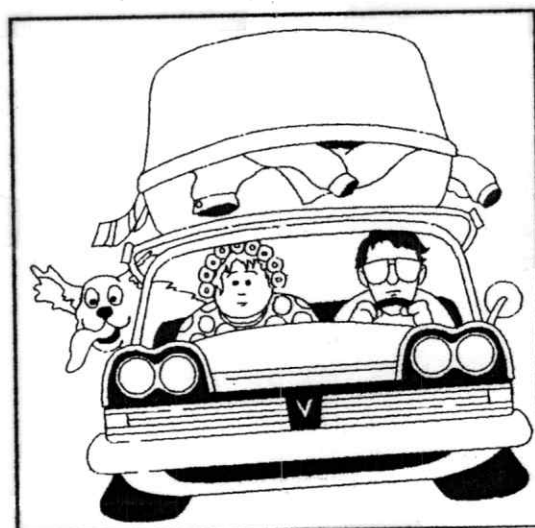
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Seaside Convention Center, Seaside Oregon



Highlights

**Friday Night Bingo
at Our Lady of Victory
Catholic Church**
see page 3

Ladies Activities
see page 2

F.A.R.S.-AEA CW Contest
see page 4

Seminars and Forums
see Page 6

VE Testing
see Page 5

Banquet

"A Tour of The Universe"
Jim Young, WB6FNI
Jet Propulsion Laboratories

**Westlink Report
Young Ham of the Year
Award**

see page 6

Early Bird Awards

**MFJ-207
HF SWR Analyzer**
**ICOM IC-2GXAT
VHF Handheld Transceiver**
see page 7

ARRL Guests

Rosalie White, WA1STO
Educational Activities
Manager

Ed Hare, KA1CV
RFI Expert

John Bloom, KE3Q
DSP Expert

Zack Lau, KH6CP/1
Project Building Expert
see page 6

Talk In

Talk-in Frequency
146.660(-600)

Study eyes 2300 MHz

A preliminary plan from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for reallocating government frequencies to non-government uses does not go far enough in responding to the will of Congress in protecting the needs of amateurs, the ARRL says.

Specifically affected would be the 2300 to 2450 MHz band. The preliminary plan would transfer some of that band to new non-government uses, which would not necessarily result in the loss of frequencies for amateurs, but amateur sharing could be more difficult than it now is with government users.

NTIA proposes to leave 2400 to 2402 and 2417 to 2450 MHz as now allocated, in part to permit continued amateur and, especially, amateur satellite operation. 2390 to 2400 and 2402 to 2417 MHz would be made available for new non-government services as early as August 1994, and 2300 to 2310 MHz would be made available later, under the NTIA plan.

In 1990 the ARRL commented to the NTIA when a study of domestic telecommunications infrastructure was begun. At that time, the League said that Amateur Radio's role of education and public service depended on it not being taken for granted in its modest spectrum needs.

In late 1992 the NTIA issued a notice of inquiry asking spectrum users what their future needs would be, and the League responded with a list, including "continued or upgraded access to 2300 MHz for both terrestrial and satellite uses."

The plan is the proposed implementation of a reallocation

of spectrum from government to non-government use mandated by Congress last year.

A public comment period on the plan runs until May 1994.

Instant license opposed

In reply comments to the FCC on a proposal for instant operating authority for new amateur operators, PR Docket 93-267, the ARRL said that, "almost without exception," groups and individuals who had responded to the proposal agreed with the League that the idea should be shelved in favor of electronic filing of license applications with the FCC.

The ARRL said that the mechanisms for such electronic filing of Form 610s "cannot be more than a few months away at worst." The League said that the FCC plan would invite abuse because, among other reasons, "The Commission itself suffers an inability to stem the tide of unlicensed operators in any radio service, because of limited enforcement resources."

In response to a counter proposal by the W5YI-VEC, that the FCC's plan be modified to avoid abuse by having volunteer examiners assign temporary call signs from blocks allocated to them by the FCC, the League said this would be an unbearable burden and responsibility on the VEs.

The League said that, at any rate, the Communications Act gives no basis for the FCC to delegate call sign assignment authority, including determining a licensee's basic qualifications, which VEs would have no way of doing.

The League once again asked that the proceeding be terminated in favor of electronic filing as soon as feasible.

SEATTLE TROLLEY QRM

Seattle Washington hams are once again suffering from trolley car induced RFI. The story goes back a number of years when Seattle added a number of new electric trolleys to their fleet.

According to Clay Freinwald, K7CR of the Western Washington Amateur Relay Association, the presence of these new trolleys was instantly noted as their new electronic control system radiated like an all band transceiver and the overhead catenary system of power wires became their gigantic antenna.

Marty Hadfield a broadcast engineer at KMTT jumped into the matter. Operating through the Western Washington Cooperative Interference Committee, Marty was able to get the Metropolitan Transit System to install filters on the vehicles to help minimize the problem. The filters were not a cure all and you can still hear some of the interference on any AM radio.

Recently, the transit authority purchased some dual powered vehicles. They run on diesel engines in outlying areas and then connect to the transit overhead wiring when inside Seattle proper. Marty Hadfield says that these new vehicles are not much different than the old ones. They too radiate like crazy and this time the interference is not limited to the AM broadcast band. He says that almost any radio in the downtown area can hear what sounds like a cats meow on any two way radio including those used by hams. Marty is trying to solve the problem, but it looks as if its going to be an uphill road till all of the meowing is gone from

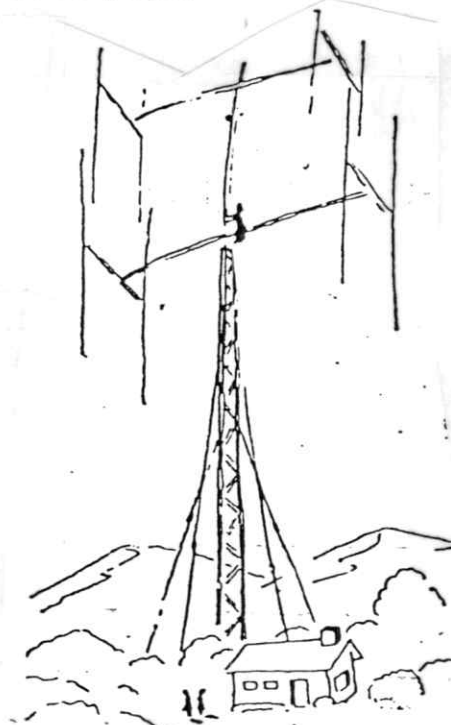
the Seattle radio airwaves.

PERRY TO BE AT DAYTON

Educator Carole Perry, WB2MGP says that she is looking for youngsters skilled in talking before large groups to be a part of her Youth Seminar at the 1994 Dayton Hamvention. The Staten Island New York school teacher will be expanding her youth session and says that more young hams are needed as speakers this year.

"Once again we are looking for youngsters who are articulate and enthusiastic about what they enjoy about amateur radio. I understand I am going to be getting an expanded time slot this year because of the popularity of the program last year. It seems that the session that always follows me, unfortunately always has to deal with us running over a little bit. So this year they have graciously given me a bigger time slot. I am looking for lots and lots of youngsters to be interviewed and have them call me at (718) 983-1416."

(cont. next page)



"Sometimes I almost wished he drank or chased women like other men."

That's my home number and the machine will pick up if I am not here. Or have them send resumes directly to me, I'm in the callbook. About what it is about ham radio that they have participated in and if they are good and articulate speakers we will certainly consider bring them to Dayton." Carole Perry, WB2MGP.

Again, if you know of an articulate young ham who would like to speak at Carole Perry's Dayton Youth Forum please contact WB2MGP at area code (718) 983-1416. That line is both voice and fax.

200 MHZ of SPECTRUM TO BE RE-ALLOCATED - HAM RADIO AFFECTED!

Amateur Radio may loose part or all of one super high-frequency band in the wake of the release of a Commerce Department report that recommends moving the military and other government agencies off much of the nation's airwaves to make way for new commercial use of the spectrum. The spectrum under fire is at 2390 to 2400 Mhz and 2402 to 2417 Mhz. If the FCC chooses to reassign it to the commercial sector, its loss will impact on several important ham radio projects including high speed packet radio data relays.

The peril to the band became known on Thursday February 11th. In a preliminary report, the Commerce Department announced that it had targeted 200 Mhz of prime VHF and UHF radio spectrum to be reissued immediately with an even bigger block to be made available over the next 15 years. This latter could include the ham radio band that runs from 2300 to

2310 Mhz. A band being looked upon in many crowded urban areas as the logical place to expand repeater and other FM relay operations as well as weak signal work.

This reallocation proposal is part of a major push by congress the Clinton administration and the National Telecommunications and Information Agency. The plan is to reassign valuable government spectrum to the private sector to expand all sorts of communications concepts. It also follows an earlier decision to reallocate another big band of spectrum to the next generation of wireless technology, known as personal communications services.

The Commerce Department report did designate certain specific spectrum to be shared by government and private sector users. It said that moving some government services will be delayed until new equipment can be built. As a result some of the reallocated spectrum will not be made available for several years. The study

also concluded that moving some services would be inappropriate. This, because of extensive investments made by the government or the services provided by the current spectrum users. It recommended that certain navigational services, meteorology, astronomy and space communications services should not be moved.

(cont. next page)



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There are two days of sunlight in all of this. First off, the Amateur Satellite band from 2400 to 2402 MHz was not put up on the chopping block. This means that plans for the construction of the new Phase 3D ham satellite can go forward as planned. Second, and just as important is the fact that this is only an initial report. Kind of a prototype suggestion by the NTIA that is still open to debate. A final report on this proposed spectrum reallocation is scheduled for release after the Federal Communications Commission and the private sectors have a chance to comment on it. Completion of that research and release of the report should come in about twelve months. Meantime, hams involved in the use of spectrum at 2300 MHz and above should get ready for a knock down drag out fight to save that band.



VANITY CALL SIGN UPDATE

Another big announcement from Ralph Haller. Vanity call signs are just around the corner. Haller believes you'll be able to request a call sign of your choosing by late summer. The program will probably be brought on line in phases, with Extra class hams getting first crack. Club call signs will also be available. Start saving your quar-

ters... a vanity call sign will cost \$70... that's 7-dollars for each of the 10 years an amateur radio license covers.

COURT ORDERS HAM OFF REPEATER

An Orange County California Superior Court has issued a three year restraining order against a ham that will keep him from operating on an area repeater. The order was requested in January by an attorney for the Clairmont Amateur Repeater Association and was issued against Tim Seawolf, KJ5KE of Quail Valley. This is a precedent setting case in that the club has used the civil rather than federal court system to ban someone from their repeater that they allege to be an undesirable operator.

GEORGIA ANTI CCR BILL

A bill introduced in the Georgia Legislature that would eliminate the effect of restrictive property covenants on amateurs is believed to be the first of its type in the nation. This, according to Georgia Section Manager Jim Altman, N4UCK.

Altman says that the proposed legislation known as Georgia House Bill 1134, would prevent all new and renewed covenants from regulating, controlling, or restricting antennas owned and operated by licensed amateurs in the state.

Altman says that, in Georgia, all restrictive covenants have a life of 20 years, but can be renewed. In banning new and renewed covenants the proposed new law would leave the existing covenants in place until their natural expiration, and prevent new ones. Then, over

the next 20 years, all existing covenants would disappear.

The bill was initially referred to the State Bar committee on real property law, which gave the measure a do pass recommendation. That's a good sign and Amateurs in Georgia are urged to contact their state legislators and urge their support of H.B. 1134. Hams elsewhere will want to watch this one carefully as it could set a national precedent for fighting deed restrictions nationwide.

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Notes From The Editor:

Just a note of apology for the readers of the newsletter this month. A lot of the material in this month's newsletter is borrowed from other publications. The reason was a glitch in the transfer of information from me to the typesetter. Oh well.. please bear with me.

On another note, I really could use some articles for the newsletter. I am hard pressed to come up with lots of stuff to fill up the pages on a regular basis. Surely there are some hams out there with some point of expertise, or information to help out newly licensed amateurs. Please feel free to contact me at (503) 640-8873, or by data or fax at (503) 640-8732. --Ed.

FOR SALE OR TRADE OR WANTED

Many ROHN Tower Parts for sale - pieces, bushings, etc. Call Stan Griffiths, W7NI, 649-0837

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8 fiberglass poles for 3 band, 2 el. quad w/ heavy duty 2" boom x 8ft, cast spiders and boom mounting plate and hardware. \$100. Don, W7PHI, 357-2782

Antennas for sale:

MET 440 circularly polarized sat. antennas 6 element 144 17 element 440. \$50 each. Contact Bill, N7RYQ at 644-3739

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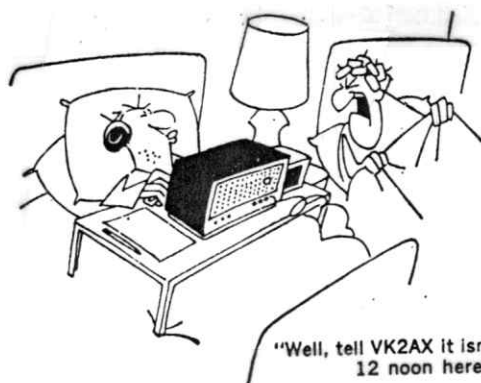
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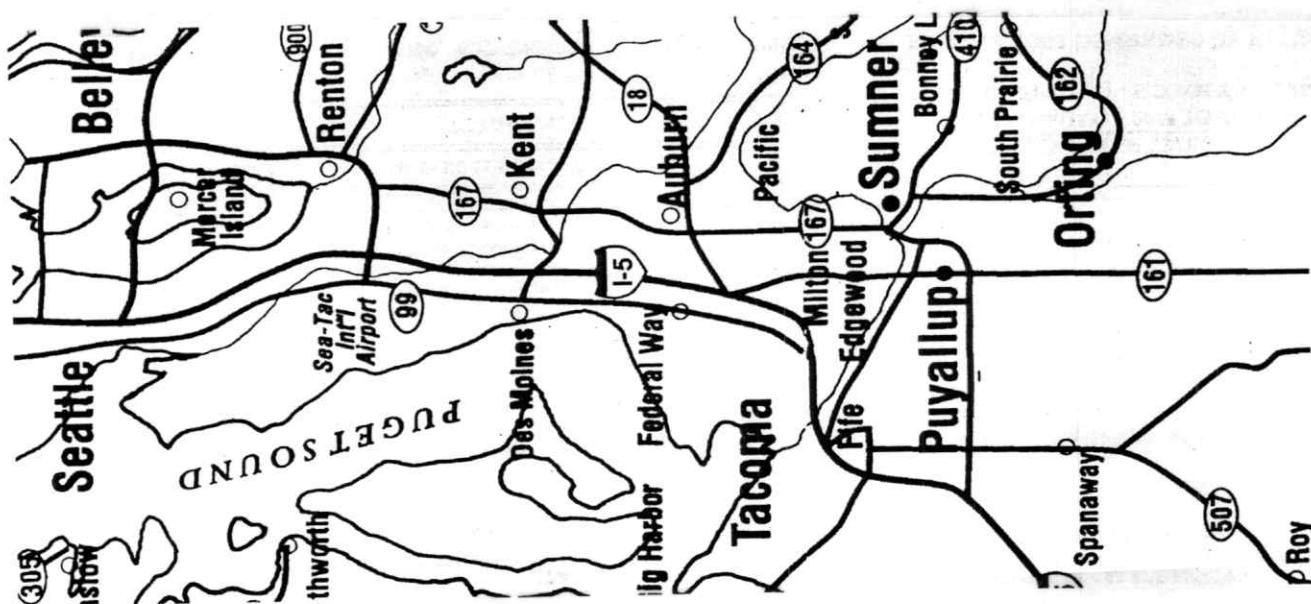
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OTVARC Club Contacts

OTVARC Executive Board

President	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Vice Pres	Chris Black	N7MWL	
Secretary	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
Treasurer	Tim Taylor	N7UCA	292-5430
Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Trustee	Rick Rasch	KB7NTT	641-7419
Trustee	Camber Bybee	KB7RGX	
Trustee	Lynn Hurd	WB7UNU	649-9152
Trustee	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295

Other Club Contacts

ARRL Coordinator	Bob Orr	WF7Q	297-2732
Bunny Hunting	OPEN		
Contesting	OPEN		
DX News	Rich Jones	KG7FS	645-9417
Equipment Valuation	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Equipment Trustee	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Emergency Services	Tim Taylor	N7UCA	292-5430
Field Day	Carl Clawson	WS7L	629-5796
Health & Welfare			
Member Badges			
Newsletter Editor	Les Turner	KB7SSE	640-8873
Newsletter Layout	Doug Reeves	N6XHW	833-8504
Newsletter Distribution	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
Nomination of Officers			
Project Night			
Public Relations	Bill Merwin	N7VZF	644-1974
Public Service	Randy Stimson	KZ7T	297-1175
Repeater	Wes Allen	K7WWG	649-3295
RFI & TVI	Dale Mosby	N7PEX	640-0217
Satellites	Red Robert	AA7CP	357-5747
Scholarship	Pat Griffiths	KA7UFG	649-0837
Sea-Pac	Al Berg	WB7SIC	640-5456
	Brad Beach	N7NVC	657-1781
	Jim Schaeffer	KB7ADH	245-2518
	Alan Churchill	AA7CV	639-5660
Technical	Joe Boyd	N7VZS	678-2188
Tower Ordinances	Stan Griffiths	W7NI	649-0837
Trailer	Dee Lynch	KA7NPN	646-4580
Training (Code)	Tom Durell	KG7RD	
Training (Novice/Tech)	Dave Morrison	W7JXU	645-8788
Training (Upgrade)	Joe Boyd	N7VZS	678-2188
VE Testing			
VE Test Schedule	John Klein	KA7ICV	281-0798
VHF/UHF	Bill Roth	N7RYW	297-7605

Imagine...

Next month you could be reading
your add here ... along with the rest
of OTVARC ...

Contact Les Turner, KB7SSE for
more information

OTVARC Club Information

Purpose: The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club, a non-profit corporation, wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective as well as established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Additionally, the intent is to promote the advancement of Amateur Radio Service through the following five objectives:

1. Education & training of new and licensed Amateurs.
2. Public Service during public events & community activities.
3. Emergency communications during emergencies & disasters.
4. Hobby enhancement through meetings, nets & contests.
5. Social contact with other amateurs & interested persons.

Special Service Club: OTVARC is an ARRL Special Service Club. The ARRL grants us this distinction due to our participation in emergency preparedness exercises, public service events and other service-oriented programs. In addition, continuing educational and training programs are conducted for FCC licenses. OTVARC benefits from you joining the ARRL through OTVARC. To join or renew your membership in the ARRL, contact the treasurer at any regular meeting.

Newsletter: The OTVARC *Oscillator* is the club newsletter. It is published monthly and is usually mailed on the first of the month. The opinions, views and recommendations of its contributors are not necessarily those of the Club, it's officers, advertisers or the editorial staff.

Correspondence: All correspondence may be sent to OTVARC, PO Box 5132, Aloha, OR 97006-0132.

Advertising: Classified ads are free to all paid up members. Display ads are available to approved commercial interests. To place an ad, mail your camera ready copy to the address above and indicate the size desired. All display ads run for six months at a time from January through June and July through December. All ads must be paid for in advance. Rates for 1994 are as follows:

Full Page	8" X 10"	\$200 for 6 months.
Half Page	8" X 5"	\$125 for 6 months.
Qtr Page	4" X 5"	\$75 for 6 months.
Bus Card	2" X 3"	\$35 for 6 months.

Meetings: We have two meetings per month. The board meeting is on the first Wednesday of each month. All club business is conducted at this meeting. All members are welcome to attend. Contact the President for location and time. The general meeting is on the second Wednesday of each month at the Beaverton Elks Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave (1 block off Canyon road). Meetings start at 7PM. If you would like to come early, you can get a nice meal from the Elks for less than \$6.

Membership: OTVARC is open to anyone. You do not need to be a licensed radio amateur to join. Dues are as follows: Full member, \$10/yr; Associate member (nonlicensed), \$10/yr; Family members of full member, \$5/yr; Life memberships available - see Treasurer. Only full members and life members may vote on club business and serve as club officers. All memberships expire on the last day of the calendar year. If you would like to join during the year, see the club Treasurer for prorated dues.

How to Join: Simply mail the Member Application and Renewal Form along with your dues to the address above.